

May 23, 1983

LB 629

SENATOR LANDIS: Senator Warner, will you yield to Senator Kahle?

SENATOR WARNER: Yes.

SENATOR KAHLE: Senator Warner, last year in the session we voted for a five percent salary increase, did we not?

SENATOR WARNER: Effective January 1, right.

SENATOR KAHLE: Okay, so what we are saying then is it amounted to a two and a half percent increase for the year if you wanted to figure it that way or five percent for the second half of the fiscal year. Is that correct?

SENATOR WARNER: You could say it either way, yes.

SENATOR KAHLE: Okay. Then when we worked out the budget this year, what figure did we use from last year in percent? Was it five percent?

SENATOR WARNER: The five percent would have been continued as a base into '83-'84.

SENATOR KAHLE: Okay, now I don't think everyone in this body understands that and I certainly don't think the press has understood it. What is really happening is that the state employees did get what was equivalent of two and a half percent increase last year if you figure from the second half of the year they got five percent. But that five percent was built into this year's budget so they are getting a full five percent this year, not above last year but two and a half percent above last year, so they are getting somewhat of a raise this year over last year. Is this right, Senator Warner?

SENATOR WARNER: Well, it is correct except you couldn't count it both times. You couldn't count it....

SENATOR KAHLE: I am not trying to. All I am saying is that if you took last year's fiscal year, they actually got two and a half percent for the full year and that is the money you put in your pocket.

SENATOR WARNER: Right.

SENATOR KAHLE: This year they are going to get five percent over what they did a year ago for the whole year. So in essence they are getting a two and a half percent raise.